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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: LIN et al.

Examiner:

Unassigned

Serial No.: 10/044,876

Group Art Unit:

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Docket No.:

US018143
(VLSI.307PA)

Title: VIDEO ARTIFACT IDENTIFICATION AND COUNTING

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on JAN. 30th, 2002.

By: Kelly Maltrey
Kelly Maltrey

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to commencing substantive examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment.

In The Specification

On page 4, lines 7 – 21, please replace the paragraph as follows (marked-up changes are shown on the attachment hereto):

The present invention may be implemented in connection with a variety of applications. FIG. 1 shows one such implementation in which the artifact counting of the present invention is employed. An MPEG2 artifacts detection unit is adapted to detect the existence of artifacts in video sequences using gradient tests in both horizontal and vertical directions. An output from the detection unit represents an indication of blockiness in scanning the active region of pixel processing and of the grid size and origin of artifacts. Scanned data 105 is processed in an